FEB 2 5 2003 H

Group Art Unit: 3677 Examiner: Lugo, C.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant

Shoichiro Usui

Appl. No.

09/731,170

Filed

December 6, 2000

For

HIGH-PRESSURE METAL PIPE HAVING CONNECTING HEAD AND

METHOD OF FORMING THE CONNECTING HEAD AS WELL AS

SLEEVE WASHER FOR THE CONNECTING HEAD

Box Non-Fee Amendment Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED

Atty. Ref.: USUI-12N

MAR 0 3 2003

AMENDMENT

GROUP 3600

Sir:

This Amendment is submitted in response to the Official Action of November 25, 2002. Please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend claim 5 to read as follows:

5. A high-pressure pipe assembly, comprising:

a metal pipe having opposite first and second ends, a connecting head adjacent said first end, said connecting head having a seat surface flared outwardly from said first end, a cylindrical surface extending from said seat surface away from said first end and a bearing surface extending inwardly from an end of the cylindrical surface remote from the seat surface, said cylindrical surface having a selected outside diameter, a cylindrical body extending from said bearing surface of said connecting head toward said second end, said cylindrical body having an outside diameter less than said selected